



# OPINION

Dishwasher wanted: Jean-Paul Antona laments about the pile of dirty dishes in the kitchen.

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# SPORTS

Cal Poly's baseball team comes back discouraged after Pepperdine game.

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# STATE

Students are borrowing twice as much money as five years ago for college.

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CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

# MUSTANG DAILY

MAY 8, 1996

WEDNESDAY

VOLUME LX, No. 117

## New officers boost Public Safety's ranks

Budget increases, two officers leaving combined to create four vacancies

By Rebecca Starrick  
Special to the Daily

Cal Poly Public Safety can now boast 10 members, which will renew their mission.

The mission is to maintain Cal Poly as the safest campus in the California State University (CSU) system and to play a proactive role in the community, said Chief Tom Mitchell.

"Last summer we had two officers leave," said Joe Risser, director of Public Safety. "So we have filled their positions. Then, in last year's budget talks, the university gave an additional \$100,000 for two new officers."

Of the four positions, Public Safety has filled all but one. They expect to finalize the paperwork on the other new-hire by July 1.

Meet Tom Donnelly, 49, Cal

Poly's newest officer and a 28-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Donnelly started as a patrol officer, then a detective, an investigator and finally an expert safes.

Even if he never has the occasion to use some of his special skills at Cal Poly, "he is a tremendous asset," Mitchell said.

Donnelly said the big-city hubbub of Los Angeles started getting to him so he and his wife of 25 years, Ruth, bought a home in Avila Beach in 1993. Ever since then the couple has visited the home just about every weekend while Tom looked for a job in the San Luis Obispo area.

"It got to be such drudgery even driving back to Los Angeles Sunday evenings," he said.

So, Donnelly maximized his visits by leaving Avila Beach at 3

a.m. on Mondays, just in time to start work in downtown Los Angeles.

"It was like leaving one world and going into another," Donnelly said.

But finally, through friend at the LAPD, Donnelly heard of a position offered at Cal Poly's Public Safety office and jumped at the chance to permanently reside in the area.

"It is a beautiful community and everyone is so nice," he said. "But it is a double-edged sword. It is hard to find employment."

For Donnelly, taking the position at Cal Poly meant sacrifice. In fact, his pay was cut in half. His pension from the LAPD, however, helps him make ends meet.

Reflecting on his days in Los Angeles  
See OFFICERS page 3

## Public Safety strives to make Poly safer with \$450,000 federal grant

Rebecca Starrick  
Special to the Daily

To maintain Cal Poly's safe campus, the federal government is giving Public Safety a \$450,000 grant. The grant will be awarded in three annual installments of \$150,000, the first coming this year.

With the money, Public Safety plans to hire two more officers — totaling six new officers this year.

"We want to have more prevention services than just responses to calls," said Joe Risser, director of Public Safety.

Public safety maintains Cal Poly as the safest campus in the California State University

(CSU) and they want to do their job better, said Chief Tom Mitchell. So, Mitchell drafted the request for a community police service grant.

The grant money was held up during the seven-month government shutdown but Mitchell said the check is in the mail.

The hiring process for the new officers will take at least 70 to 90 days, Mitchell said.

Because Public Safety planned to hire six officers from its last pool of applicants, it may not have to begin the selection process all over again, Mitchell said.

"We can't do anything fast; we  
See GRANT page 5

## Poly hosts Calif. Future Farmers' competitions

By Amy Conley  
Daily Staff Writer

The parking lot near the library looked like a solid blue quilt Saturday morning, with lines of high school students in blue corduroy jackets, white shirts and black pants or skirts.

High school students from throughout California gathered at Cal Poly for the Future Farmers of America (FFA) State Judging Competition to exhibit their knowledge in various agriculture-related events. Cal Poly has hosted the event since 1932.

"The FFA is the largest student-youth organization in the country," said Ryan Bertao, 19, last year's California president. "California has the second largest membership in the country with more than 46,000 members and approximately 300 chapters."

Gail Simmons, the administrative assistant for the agricultural education department at Cal Poly, said more than 1,600 high school students from 125 high schools attended this year's competition.

The students judged in 20 different competitions, including: land judging, similar to soil science; dairy products judging; the judging of milk, cheese and other dairy products; and floriculture judging, the judging of flowers.

In dairy products judging, for example, the students determined what was wrong with the milk samples prepared by the judges. They were scored on how closely their criticism cor-

responds to the judges' criticisms of the milk.

More than 200 Cal Poly students volunteered to make the event possible, Simmons said. They ran the contests, tabulated the results and served the thousands of people who came to the afternoon barbecue, where the students and volunteers loaded up on tri-tip, potato salad and garlic bread.

More than 200 plaques and at least twice as many ribbons were given out at an awards banquet Saturday night.

The top five individuals and teams in every event received awards. The top three overall individuals and teams in each category will travel to the national competition in Kansas City next fall. Atascadero High School's FFA livestock judging team was one of the first place winners who will be traveling to Kansas City.

Some competitors traveled from as far as Ferndale, 10 hours north of San Luis Obispo, to have a chance to compete in their specialized fields.

The students seemed impressed with Cal Poly.

"It's nice to go somewhere where everyone knows so much about agriculture and is so helpful," said Jennifer Knight, 17, from Fresno Central High School.

Bertao, from Tulare, said he was so impressed with previous competitions at Cal Poly that he will be entering in the fall as an animal science major.

## Grub time



Architectural engineering students Marc Miller (left), a junior, and senior David Fuchslin take advantage of good grub at a barbecue on Dexter Lawn, sponsored every Tuesday by the Structural Engineers Association of California / Daily photo by Joe Johnston

## Local A.A. helps student stay sober

By Roy Larsen  
Daily Staff Writer

"I've been drinking for 10 years," Sherry, a Cal Poly student in her late 20s said. I didn't think I had a problem until it had infected and affected every aspect of my life."

Sherry, who wished to have her last name withheld, started attending Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) meetings 10 months ago, and with sobriety in her life, she said she has completely changed.

"Sometimes it's an hourly battle that I'll have to fight for the rest of my life," she said. "Before A.A., to avoid a hangover, by noon I was buzzed and by night I was smashed."

"I wrecked my car, lost my license, lost a great job, lied, just got by in school, and cheated my social life away," Sherry said.

Now she has joined a local gym, her grades, work performance and social life have improved and she enjoys a new feeling of health and awareness.

According to Fred, public information chair for the 22nd A.A. District of San Luis Obispo, there are specific support meetings for young people, primarily students, in San Luis Obispo. There are also regular daily meetings for all ages.

"A.A. is not a treatment program but a fellowship of recovered and recovering alcoholics," said Fred, who wished to have his last name withheld.

Sponsors are available to new  
See A.A. page 5



TOP  
OF  
THE

## AGENDA

Wednesday

May  
8

17 days left in spring quarter

TODAY'S WEATHER: mostly sunny

TOMORROW'S WEATHER: mostly sunny

Today's high/low: 80s/50s Tomorrow's high/low: 80s/50s

"Take Back The Night" is taking place May 16. Doors open in Chumash Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker Katie Koester will present her program "No/Yes" at 7 p.m. and a campus protest will start at 8:45 p.m. There will also be a post-march rally. For more information, call 756-2600.

## Today

Steve Smith the man who is circumnavigating the world by human power, will be at Cal Poly today in building 52, room E-45 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 781-0856.

## Upcoming

The Physics Colloquium is having a discussion titled "Physics and Chemistry of Atmospheric Aerosols" May 9 in building 52, room E-45 at 11:10 a.m. The discussion will be led by John Hallet of the University of Nevada, Reno.

Cal Poly Ballroom Dance Club invites everyone to attend its car wash fund-raiser May 11 at the corner of Santa Rosa and Mill Streets. The cost is only \$4 per vehicle and a free hot dog will be given to those with advance ticket purchases. Tickets can be purchased by calling 783-2571.

Agenda Items: c/o Natasha Collins

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\*\*\*Please submit information at least three days prior to the event\*\*\*

Due to the excessive demand, not all items submitted to the Agenda section will be printed. In order to guarantee publication, an advertisement must be purchased. Agenda information will be printed exactly as it is received (i.e. spelling, times and dates).

## Proposal on way to halt cybercrime

By Doug Willis  
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — A proposal to extend consumer protection laws regulating catalog and telemarketing sales to shoppers on the Internet passed its first legislative hurdle Tuesday with no opposition.

Assemblywoman Jackie Speier, D-Burlingame, told the Assembly Consumer Protection Committee that while the Internet is rapidly becoming a marketplace, some basic consumer protection laws didn't anticipate and don't cover the new communications technology.

"We are introducing this in response to continued reports that the information highway is plagued by cyberspace highwaymen and women," she told

the panel. "There are cyber-thieves. They are prevalent and widespread."

The committee sent Speier's bill to the Assembly floor on a unanimous 9-0 vote after less than five minutes of testimony.

Speier said two of the biggest crimes on the Internet today are thefts of credit card numbers and sales of nonexistent or misrepresented goods and services, which she said are similar to problems in mail-order and telemarketing industries.

Her proposal would require that businesses selling anything on the Internet must reveal their true business name and street address, clearly state their refund policies and provide "a cost-free method for consumers to contact them to resolve dis-

putes."

It would also require Internet merchants to complete sales transactions within 30 days, provide sales contracts and generally abide by all state laws governing catalog and telemarketing sales.

She said effective laws have been enacted over recent years to protect consumers from telemarketing and direct mail scams, "and this simply adds commercial sales on the Internet to that same body of law."

"It's about time that something be done someplace to give consumers some kind of rights and protection on the information superhighway," Michael Ross of California Alliance for Consumer Protection told the panel.

## Student loan debt doubled in 5 years

Associated Press

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — California college students are borrowing more than twice as much as they did five years ago to pay for their schooling, according to the Student Aid Commission.

From 1990 through 1995, students loans jumped from \$1.2 billion to \$2.4 billion, the commission reported. By the end of the current year, the loan total is expected to reach \$2.7 billion.

"This is a phenomenal rate of growth during a relatively short period of time," said Jon Shaver, the commission's executive direc-

tor. The panel administers federal student loan programs.

"Never before have California students been mortgaged so heavily to pay the costs of their

**"This is a phenomenal rate of growth during a relatively short period of time."**

Jon Shaver

Commission's executive director

California college educations," he added.

Details of the borrowing were reported Tuesday in the Contra Costa Times.

Rising college costs and a stagnant state economy have put

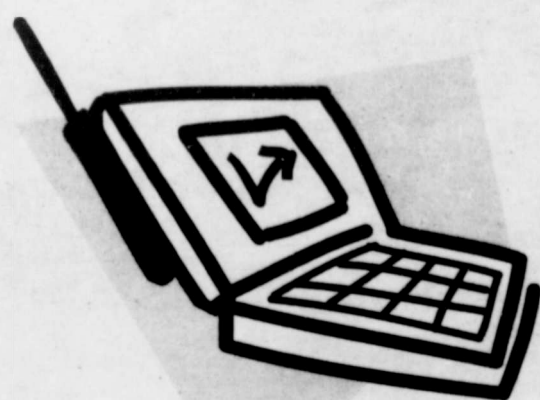
more and more pressure on family budgets, driving in part the students' need for loans. And although fees at state universities may be frozen this year, the costs of room and board continue to climb.

Changes in the Higher Education Act of 1992 also have contributed to greater use of student loans. At California State University, Hayward, for example, under graduate borrowing immediately increased by a third.

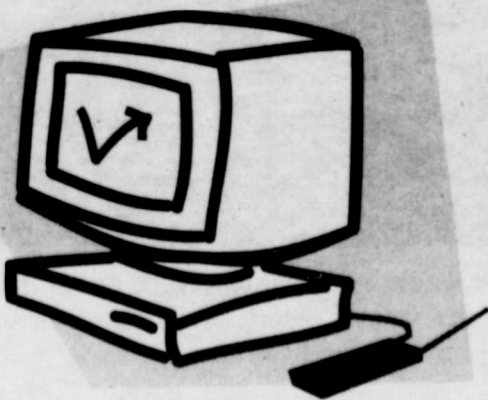
At the same time, the commission reported that loan defaults have declined, down from 20.1 percent in 1992 to 15.4 percent a year later.

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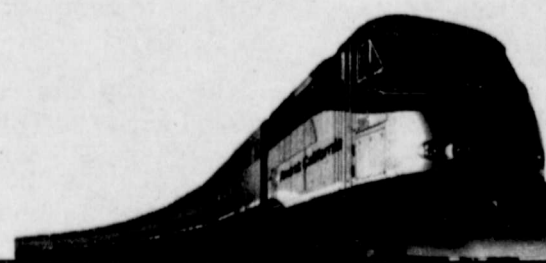
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## OFFICERS: Two new officers have ties to Poly

Angeles, Donnelly said it was the right time to leave the police department. The LAPD is not as full of all the corruption and violence the media portrays it to be, he said — at least not the police he knows.

“Life is changing in Los Angeles; it used to be citizen-against-citizen violence,” he said. “But for the last eight or nine years, the violence against police has escalated.”

Robert Cudworth, 28, Public Safety’s other new officer, agrees with Donnelly that San Luis Obispo is one of the best places to live and start a family. A small-town mentality is all Cudworth has known. Born and raised in San Luis Obispo, he recently graduated from Allen Hancock Police Academy.

Because Cudworth plans to get married in August 1997, a safe place to raise a family is among his primary concerns. He is also concerned with making his way up the career ladder.

He said he is an asset to Public Safety because he can relate to students.

“I’m not too far removed from being a student myself.”

In fact, Cudworth still considers himself a student.

He took a leave of absence from being a Cal Poly business senior a few years ago to enter

the police academy. But he hopes to return to school in a few years when his career becomes more stable.

If Cudworth furthers his education, he will not have to depend on being a police officer his entire life, Cudworth said.

Another officer, Ray Urbano, 40, is actually not so new to Cal Poly. He has been a university parking officer for the past two years.

He moved into the officer position to put his law enforcement skills to work. Urbano previously served as a reserve officer on the Arroyo Grande Police Department for 18 years.

Public Safety has offered a fourth position to Lori Hashim, currently a police officer in Bakersfield, said Sgt. Bob Schumacher.

She is presently a DARE (Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education) officer, which takes her into classrooms to educate grade school kids about alcohol and other drug abuse.

Although Hashim still has to take some tests, Schumacher said he plans to have her on board by July 1.

The newest officers offer “a variety of experience and background and that is a big plus for us,” Schumacher said.

# Politicking holds sway as Senate debates gas tax, minimum wage

By David Espo  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Election-year gridlock gripped the Senate on Tuesday as the two parties struggled for advantage on Majority Leader Bob Dole’s call for a rollback of the federal gasoline tax and the Democrats’ demand to raise the minimum wage.

“We’re obviously in a situation now where nothing is going to get done,” Democratic Leader Tom Daschle said after more than 30 minutes of sparring on the Senate floor with Dole, the GOP presidential nominee-to-be.

Six months before Election Day, presidential politics hovered over the debate.

Dole charged President Clinton and the Democrats with doing the bidding of “labor bosses” in opposing legislation that Republicans injected into the debate to change certain workplace rules. “I thought certainly he’d be flexible on something like this. Probably is,” he said in a jab at Clinton’s consistency, or lack of it, on other issues.

The White House circulated a three-page paper that accused Dole of “hypocrisy” on taxes. By his prior votes, it said, the Kansas Republican supported increases in the gasoline tax, as well as hikes in the Social Security payroll tax that took place in eight successive years.

The Senate has been at loggerheads for weeks over Democratic demands to raise the \$4.25-an-hour minimum wage by

90 cents over two years.

Dole has gone to extraordinary lengths to thwart a straightforward vote on that issue, but he and the Republicans have been forced onto the defensive at the very time he was hoping to use the Senate as a launching pad for his race for the White House.

Ten days ago, Dole proposed repealing a 4.3 cent-a-gallon hike in the gasoline tax that Clinton and the Democrats pushed through in 1993, a politically appealing proposal given the sharp rise in gasoline prices in recent months.

By early evening, private talks to resolve the impasse were continuing.

But the only vote of the day had occurred when Republicans fell short of the 60 votes needed to choke off debate on legislation to pay the legal bills of Billy Dale and others fired in the White House travel office affair three years ago.

Democrats are blocking the measure — as they have others — because Dole won’t permit them a vote on the minimum wage. The 52-44 vote against choking off debate fell along party lines, and Sen. Kit Bond, R-Mo., followed up with a stinging attack on the White House.

“We did not get straight answers,” when the issue came up, he said. “There were half-truths and misleading statements” from the White House, he added. “They should have told truth that people were fired so business could go to friends of the first family.”

At midafternoon, the struggle moved into a new phase, as Dole sought agreement to vote later in the day on his proposal to roll back the gasoline tax.

Under the Senate’s rules, that required agreement by the Democrats. Daschle immediately said he’d agree if Dole permitted the vote on the minimum wage.

After several moments, each man objected to the other’s proposal, leaving the issue unresolved.

Before that happened, though, Dole also floated proposals that would have allowed a vote on the minimum wage, in tandem with a change in labor law that would have permitted management and employees to discuss safety and other workplace issues outside the collective bargaining framework.

“The labor bosses don’t want their people talking to management,” he said.

Daschle, in rebuttal, said Republicans really wanted to permit “companies to set up rump organizations to negotiate with themselves.” The administration has also registered its opposition.

The gasoline tax bill Dole attempted to push through the Senate would be effective through Dec. 31. He would offset the \$2.9 billion cost with an \$800 million cut in the Department of Energy’s administrative budget — including Secretary Hazel O’Leary’s travel expenses — and with the proceeds from the auction of unused portions of the broadcast spectrum.

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| ROUTE 9                          |     |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------------------------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| SOUTHBOUND Bus Stops             |     |          |          |          |          |          |
|                                  | 9B  | 9        | 9A       | 9        | 9        | 9        |
|                                  | AM  | AM       | AM       | AM       | PM       | PM       |
| Mission & 14 St.                 | Lv. |          | 06:43 AM |          |          |          |
| 34th & Spring St.                | Lv. | 06:10 AM |          |          |          |          |
| 8th & Pine St. **                |     | 06:17 AM |          | 09:21 AM |          | 03:21 PM |
| 12th & Park St.                  |     | 06:20 AM | 06:26 AM | 06:55 AM |          |          |
| Creston Rd. & Melody Dr.         |     | 06:25 AM |          |          |          |          |
| Niblick Rd. & Melody Dr.         |     | 06:29 AM |          |          |          |          |
| 1st & Spring St.                 |     | 06:33 AM |          | 09:25 AM |          | 03:25 PM |
| TEMPLETON                        |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| Twin Cities Hospital             |     | 06:42 AM |          | 09:34 AM |          | 03:36 PM |
| 6th & Main St.                   |     | 06:46 AM |          | 09:38 AM |          | 03:38 PM |
| ATASCADERO                       |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| El Camino Real & San Anselmo Rd. |     | 06:55 AM |          | 09:44 AM |          | 03:46 PM |
| Atascadero City Hall             | Ar. | 06:58 AM | 06:46 AM | 07:15 AM | 09:48 AM | 03:50 PM |
| Atascadero City Hall             | Lv. | 07:00 AM | 06:47 AM | 07:16 AM | 09:51 AM | 03:54 PM |
| El Camino Real & San Gabriel Rd. |     | 07:08 AM |          | 09:57 AM |          | 04:00 PM |
| SANTA MARGARITA                  |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| El Camino Real & Encina Ave.     |     | 07:21 AM |          | 10:06 AM |          | 04:11 PM |
| SAN LUIS OBISPO                  |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| Cal Poly @ University Union      |     | 07:37 AM | 07:17 AM | 07:46 AM | 10:25 AM | 04:28 PM |
| San Luis Obispo Govt. Center     | Ar. | 07:45 AM | 07:25 AM | 07:54 AM | 10:32 AM | 04:35 PM |
| NORTHBOUND Bus Stops             |     |          |          |          |          |          |
|                                  | 9B  | 9        | 9A       | 9        | 9        | 9        |
|                                  | AM  | AM       | AM       | AM       | PM       | PM       |
| SAN LUIS OBISPO                  |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| San Luis Obispo Govt. Center     | Lv. | 07:25 AM |          |          |          | 04:54 PM |
| So. Higuera St. & Margarita Ave. | Ar. | 07:31 AM |          |          |          | 05:08 PM |
| San Luis Obispo Govt. Center     | Lv. | 07:55 AM |          | 01:25 PM | 03:53 PM | 05:15 PM |
| Cal Poly @ Old Gym               |     | No Stop  |          | 01:32 PM | 04:01 PM | 05:22 PM |
| SANTA MARGARITA                  |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| El Camino Real & Encina Ave.     |     | 08:12 AM |          | 01:49 PM | 04:17 PM | 05:41 PM |
| ATASCADERO                       |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| El Camino Real & San Gabriel Rd. |     | 08:20 AM |          | 01:57 PM | 04:25 PM | 05:49 PM |
| Atascadero City Hall             | Ar. | 08:26 AM |          | 02:03 PM | 04:31 PM | 05:55 PM |
| Atascadero City Hall             | Lv. | 08:30 AM |          | 02:07 PM | 04:35 PM | 05:59 PM |
| El Camino Real & San Anselmo Rd. |     | 08:34 AM |          | 02:11 PM | 04:40 PM | 06:02 PM |
| TEMPLETON                        |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| 6th & Main St.                   |     | 08:42 AM |          | 02:19 PM | 04:46 PM | 06:09 PM |
| Twin Cities Hospital             |     | 08:44 AM |          | 02:21 PM | 04:50 PM | 06:11 PM |
| PASO ROBLES                      |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| 1st & Spring St.                 |     | 08:52 AM |          | 02:29 PM | 04:59 PM | 06:25 PM |
| 8th & Pine St. **                |     | 08:56 AM |          | 02:33 PM | 05:03 PM | No Stop  |
| Niblick Rd. & Rambouillet Rd.    |     |          |          |          |          | 06:28 PM |
| Creston Rd. & Golden Hill Rd.    |     |          |          |          |          | 06:31 PM |
| 12th & Park St.                  |     |          |          |          | 05:06 PM | No Stop  |
| 13th & Spring St.                |     |          |          |          |          | 06:36 PM |
| 34th & Spring St.                |     |          |          |          |          | 06:47 PM |
| SAN LUIS OBISPO                  |     |          |          |          |          |          |
| Mission & 14 St.                 | Ar. |          |          |          |          | 06:40 PM |

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## KURT'S KORNER

## Own the whales

Environmental pessimism is alive and well at Poly, as evidenced by several recent commentaries. An opinion piece about illegal immigration produced a response about the evils of high-yield farming in the Third World. A column by Randy Davis suggested the Unabomber's ideas (but not his methods of course) should be taken seriously. All told, there is a definite anti-technology attitude today, and it shocks me.

Environmentalism is usually attacked as being nothing more than misguided doomsaying. I will not repeat the usual conservative non-argument that man cannot significantly harm nature. However, current environmentalists have a considerable, and unfortunate, contempt for progress. The correct response to environmental issues is not to turn back the clock nor to stumble forward without forethought.

A third viewpoint on man's relation to nature has evolved in recent years — usually referred to as free-market environmentalism. A recent book, "The True State of the Planet," delineates this man-centered approach to the environment. The authors point out that many environmental problems, food supply, smog, deforestation etc., actually decline in severity with the advance of technology. In particular, it is mankind's innovations in high-yield farming, more efficient engines and machinery and sustainable tree harvesting that makes possible the effective combination of man and nature.

For example, the number one reason for massive Third World deforestation is not logging but the clearing of land for agriculture. The use of low-yield subsistence farming techniques are most responsible for the recession of the rainforests. If high-yield techniques — fertilizer, no-till, pesticides and biotechnology — were used in the Third World, it would not only reduce the need for agricultural land but actually trigger reforestation. In the industrialized world, the predominant trend of this century has been a steady increase in forest area. The reason for this is simple. New farming techniques have reduced demand for cropland thus allowing forests to grow back onto previously deforested land.

But by far the worst flaw in current environmental thought is the romantic attachment to open spaces and common ownership. Despite the fact that common ownership of a resource universally results in its overuse, environmentalists continue to decry private property systems as a threat to the environment. Air and water resources are almost universally managed in common, and look at what gets polluted the most: air and water.

There are some examples of property rights in water resources, however. In Japan, a system of fisheries cooperative associations has been used to prevent pollution of coastal waters and ensure sustained fish harvests. The Maine lobster industry also has an exclusive ownership system which prevents over-harvest of the lobsters.

These examples are in sharp contrast to the normal "use it or lose it" situation with ocean resources. One must ask if the whales would have been hunted nearly to extinction if there had been specific hunting areas held by private whalers with a direct stake in preserving the resource. Without ownership, there was no incentive to limit whaling, and the results were devastating.

In the United States, public management of the Northwestern forests has led to a pointless debate between loggers and environmentalists over the spotted owl. It is ironic that neither side recognizes that such conflicts don't arise in the Eastern United States because most logging there is done on private land.

Private ownership means the difference between tree farming and clear cutting.

Environmentalists have correctly pointed out the effects of pollution but are clueless as to its cause. Their advocacy of collective ownership and aversion to technology will, if put into practice, only cripple man's best weapons against environmental degradation. Man is not a destroyer of nature if given a stake in the world he is shaping.

Kurt Horner is an architectural engineering freshman.

## COMMENTARY

## A dishwasher's manifesto

My kitchen is filthy. The odorous smell is enough to alert the fight-or-flight instincts of any visitors who dare to trespass upon the slippery linoleum. From the sink to the stove, the counter is a swampy collection of half-filled murky cups, pans crusted with dried beans and rice and soggy towels.

by Jean-Paul Antona

Do not blame me! The problem is my four roommates. I actually do my dishes when I am done cooking and eating. For my confused roommates, however, the routine is reversed; they clean the pots and pans when they need to use them. Total dish denial! Indeed, my experience is that many people, especially college students, live this way. This is wrong; nobody should have to clean somebody else's dirty dish in order to cook their own meal. Dirty dishes are too commonly a source of contention to be neglected.

Do not call me anal! I do not care if my roommates have messy rooms. My own room is a jumble of clothes, books and papers. Privately, I reserve the right to sleep and rest in my own mess. But the kitchen is a collision of personal property and rights. A public domain. Some people think, as long as they eventually get around to the cleaning, it is their private mess if they leave dishes lying around for a week. However, I may not be able to cook until the pan they used is clean. I consider it grossly inconsiderate and defiant of common courtesy.

For anyone who perpetuates this kind of domestic violence, I recommend the following three step program:  
**Step 1: Control Your Feelings.** My roommates often whine, "I hate doing the dishes," as if it is a matter of pleasure or pain! Does anyone enjoy brushing their teeth, washing their clothes or wiping after a bowel movement? Some people, maybe. But most of us do not consider these things pleasurable. The matter is one of necessity. We wipe immediately because if we waited to do it before the next bowel movement, we would be crusty and smelly!

Good hygiene, like wiping, is taught to children at an early enough age that they become accustomed and indifferent to the chore. Then why is washing the dishes such emotional turmoil? Too many parents have spoiled their children by letting them get away from the dinner table without doing their dishes. Now it only takes practice to make it second nature.

**Step 2: Practice and Visualization.** At first, washing the dishes is troublesome. But a month's worth of daily diligence will make you accustomed and indifferent. After a while, you will think of beautiful things while you scrub the broiled chicken skin off the pan. Your mind will be elsewhere.

Imagine a kitchen where you and your roommates can use a pan without having to clean it first. The fresh lemon scent. Glossy counters you can lean your elbows on. The smile on your lover's face when he or she realizes you will be clean and easy to live with.

**Step 3: Reinforcement and Extension.** After a



week of consistent dishwashing, order yourself a pizza and eat on paper plates. You deserve a break!

The kitchen is a microcosm of the greater world. Ask yourself, is there any correspondence between your irresponsible kitchen and the littered roadsides, the problem of toxic waste disposal and the lack of politeness in urban America?

Men especially need to realize the importance of doing the dishes. I once heard a husband say his domestic duty was to attend to the

nontrivial rituals of the household, i.e. mowing the lawn, fixing the car — projects that require more than 10 minutes. Yet I suspect his wife spent more time per month doing the dishes than he invested in his projects.

The amount of care and consideration displayed in the kitchen is a good indication of a person's self-sufficiency, standard of living and civility. Cleanliness is godliness. If you are still in dish denial, face the inevitable before your spouse or roommates nag you into compliance. It is not as hard as you make it out to be. My ultimatum to my roommates is: Act up or eat out!

Jean-Paul Antona is a math senior and his roommate denied he was there when I called up to confirm his commentary. It must have been the dishes.-D.P.

Some people think, as long as they eventually get around to the cleaning, it is their private mess if they leave dishes lying around for a week.

## MUSTANG DAILY

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# First Bosnian war crimes trial begins with plea from defense

By Mike Corder  
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Pale, impassive, wearing a baggy blue suit and flanked by U.N. guards, a 40-year-old Serb faced international justice Tuesday in the first war crimes trial to come out of the Bosnian war.

The Texas judge presiding over the U.N. tribunal reminded all present that Dusan Tadic was innocent until proven guilty. Tadic's lawyer said he was a victim of mistaken identity, swept up by authorities frantic to find a scapegoat for the atrocities of Bosnia.

But the chief prosecutor accused the former bar owner of offenses of "unspeakable horror," including murdering Muslim prisoners with karate kicks, torture, rape and forcing one prisoner to castrate another with his teeth.

The trial, which is to include video testimony by alleged victims too terrified of Tadic to face him in court, opened in a building ringed by steel barriers and flanked by tents to accommodate hundreds of reporters.

A 30-yard-wide wall of bulletproof glass separated the judges, attorneys and defendant from the packed spectators gallery, and scores of armed U.N. and Dutch police patrolled inside and outside the courtroom.

The three-judge panel, wearing black and scarlet robes, sat behind a raised wooden bench fitted with computer screens for viewing documentary evidence, including maps.

Tadic flipped on a computer screen placed on the long wooden dock when he entered the courtroom, and listened impassively to a translation of the proceedings over a headset.

The first war crimes trial since Nuremberg "has certain historic dimensions," presiding judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald of Houston said in her opening statement, referring to the

**"The tribunal must be wary of desires for revenge and the need for a scapegoat."**

**Mischa Wladimiroff**  
Defense lawyer

prosecution of Nazi war criminals that ended in 1956.

"Nevertheless we should all remember first and foremost that this is a criminal trial," she said.

Tadic is charged with crimes against humanity for taking part in more than 30 murders and torturing Muslims in and around the Serb-run Omarska prison camp in northwestern Bosnia in 1992. He faces a maximum penalty of life in prison if convicted.

According to prosecutors, Tadic allegedly terrorized three camps in Bosnia's northwestern Prijedor region from May through December 1992. He also is accused of rounding up Muslims and Croats in the area, killing or assaulting some, and driving others into the camps.

In his opening statement Tuesday, chief prosecutor Grant Niemann of Australia described Tadic's transformation from a small businessman in the northwestern Bosnian town of Kozarac to a nationalist zealot freed by the Serb uprising to indulge his sadistic impulses.

"Through this trial we will embark on an examination of offenses of unspeakable horror," Niemann said.

He described one attack on inmates at Omarska in which Tadic, a martial arts expert, allegedly kicked Muslim inmates to death while other Serbs used baseball bats and lengths of cable.

"The man who appeared to be in charge was Tadic," said Niemann. "Tadic did not use any weapons, only his feet in a karate fashion."

But defense lawyer Mischa Wladimiroff warned Tuesday that the Yugoslav tribunal was

an experiment in justice that could fail.

"An international hunger for a verdict of guilty must be resisted at all costs," Wladimiroff said. "The tribunal must be wary of desires for revenge and the need for a scapegoat."

"There is evidence that the case is viewed as a symbol of everything that has happened in the area and Dusko Tadic has been portrayed as the archetype of a war criminal," he said.

The court-appointed lawyer said he would call witnesses who say Tadic was in the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Banja Luka when the atrocities were committed. He also plans to call character witnesses and survivors of detention camps to deny Tadic's involvement in crimes he is accused of committing there.

His only regular visitor in prison, a Serb woman married to a Dutchman, maintained Tuesday that Tadic was a sensitive man who couldn't live with himself if he were guilty of the crimes he is accused of.

"When I visit him I do not see a monster, I see a man with a warm personality, an educated man who is not able to do such monstrosities and live with it," said Ljubica Metselaar-Vidic.

Tadic originally also had been charged with rape, but in the opening minutes of the trial, the court dropped that charge at the request of prosecutors, who said the victim was too frightened to testify.

Court TV broadcast the proceedings live to the United States, and the plaza in front of the tribunal building was ringed with TV satellite dishes pointed skywards.

## A.A.: 12-Step Program offers spiritual guidance-

From page 1

members. These people help and guide newcomers on a more personal basis, if necessary, at almost any time. Sponsors are members who have been sober for at least one year and are very familiar with the 12-Step Program.

The 12-Step Program is a spiritual guide and a major reason for the success of the 60-year-old institution.

In the first three steps, members admit they have a problem, that their lives are unmanageable and that they are powerless against alcohol.

The next four steps deal with self examination, including life situations and discussing their awareness with someone else.

Steps eight and nine are the recognition of people whom the member might have hurt in the past while drinking. Members also make amends to those people both emotionally and financially.

Steps 10 through 12 deal with more self examination in a sober status, including prayer and meditation, in order to better understand what is going on in their current life.

A.A. does not keep any personal records and anonymity is enforced with first name usage only. Members are not there to judge or condemn members but to support and try to understand and help people. A.A. is not part of any other organization and is totally self supported through its own membership donations.

In 1976, the membership was estimated at more than one million worldwide. By 1994, more than 14 million of the 12-Step manuals had been distributed since 1939.

Meetings are held throughout the county with halls in Paso Robles, Atascadero, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo and the Five Cities area. There are four daily meetings in San Luis Obispo alone, which generally start at 7 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. For more information, local A.A. offices are listed in the phone book. The 24-hour number in San Luis Obispo is 541-3211.

"I just want people to know they do not have to be alone with their problem," Sherry said. "There are nonjudgmental, understanding and supportive people at A.A. who can help with the next minute, hour or day."

## GRANT: Public Safety wants a dormitory officer

From page 1

are careful about who we hire," he said.

Applicants go through extensive screening ranging from psychological evaluations to physical endurance tests. For the most recently hired officers, the testing process took about five months.

With the new officers, Public Safety plans to expand community outreach programs like Scared Safe, a class offered at

Cuesta College. It is an obstacle course that teaches people to be more aware of their surroundings, Mitchell said.

"We also hope to free up one officer by the end of the year to cover the residence halls," he said. "There is a lot of activity up there with alcohol and violence against women."

The \$450,000 grant will allow Public Safety to maintain

Cal Poly's standing as the safest campus among the 22 state universities.

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# Lawrence Taylor ate fake crack cocaine before arrest, police said

Associated Press

Just before his arrest, former NFL Pro Bowl linebacker Lawrence Taylor swallowed the fake crack cocaine he was accused of buying from an undercover officer, police say.

Taylor was among 18 people arrested during a random drug sting Friday night. He was charged with trying to purchase \$100 worth of crack.

"He informed us that he ate all of it," city police Officer Len Sloan said Monday.

Sloan, who booked Taylor, said he long had admired the player and "I was surprised and hurt more than anything else." Taylor later was freed on \$5,000 bond.

Hugh Munn, spokesman for the State Law Enforcement Division, said the fake crack is made from "food-grade substances" and is harmless if swallowed.

Taylor, who was a leader in the

New York Giants' drive to Super Bowl championships after the 1986 and 1990 seasons, later said he was having personal problems. "I oughta kill myself," he told The Sun News of Myrtle Beach.

Taylor's Myrtle Beach lawyer, Tommy Brittain, said he did not believe Taylor would actually hurt himself.

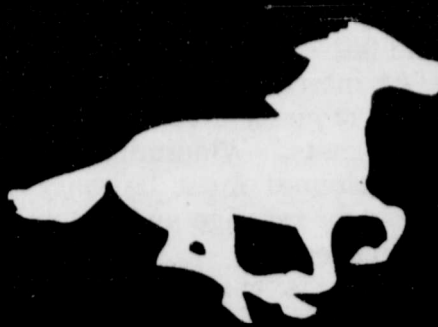
"He's concerned and anxious to do the right thing like everybody else," Brittain said Monday. "He wants to face the future with a hopeful attitude and put anything that has happened bad to him behind him. ... He's strong and has never been under any kind of suicide watch."

Bobby Cupo, Taylor's agent, also said he was not worried about Taylor.

After his release, Taylor attended a sports memorabilia auction at a nightclub later Friday night but he skipped a charity golf tournament Saturday.

## Mustang Daily

your place for



## Cal Poly Sports

# Oakland A's defeat Indians

By ROB GLOSTER  
AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. — It's a good thing those construction workers far beyond the outfield fences at the Oakland Coliseum wear hard hats.

Mark McGwire hit a three-run homer into the scaffolding in left-center and Jason Giambi had four singles as the Oakland Athletics won their second straight against Cleveland, defeating the Indians 8-4 Tuesday.

McGwire's blast officially was estimated at 428 feet, but teammates and Cleveland manager Mike Hargrove said that distance does little justice to what Oakland center fielder Ernie Young called "a monster blast."

"I've never seen a ball go that far. It was unbelievable," Young said. "People will be talking about that one for a long time."

Added Hargrove: "I don't think I've ever seen a home run hit that far, anywhere."

It was the fourth homer of the season for McGwire, who singled in the go-ahead run Monday night as the A's rallied for a 5-3 victory over the Indians.

McGwire, who was on the disabled list until April 23 because of a torn right arch, refused to discuss the homer. He has not spoken to reporters in recent days, saying he's angry over coverage of his return from the injury.

"Just the way he hits home runs, it pumps up our team. It's awesome," said Doug Johns (3-3), who allowed three runs on five hits in eight innings. "Every time he's up there it's fun, because you

know he's going to swing the bat so hard."

Giambi singled in the first, third, fourth and sixth innings to raise his average to .342. He was intentionally walked in the eighth. Giambi scored in the third on McGwire's homer and drove in a run in the fourth.

"It was a bomb," Giambi said of McGwire's homer. "You don't hit them much farther than that."

The A's got 11 hits off Orel Hersher (3-3), who allowed four runs in 4 2-3 innings. Hersher had won his previous three decisions.

The A's added four runs in the eighth against reliever Julian Tavarez. Young hit his first homer of the season, Phil Plantier had a two-run double and Terry Steinbach had an RBI single.

Cleveland center fielder Kenny Lofton, who has won three straight gold gloves, made two errors in the eighth — letting one ball fall for a three-base error and allowing Steinbach to reach third by overrunning his single.

"If I could have gotten Mark (McGwire) to hit it on the ground, it would have been a different game," Hersher said. "I thought it was a warning track high fly ball, but then it kept carrying. I was following Kenny (Lofton) and I thought he was going to leap up. But then he would have had to leap pretty high."

Carlos Baerga had a pair of RBIs for the Indians. He doubled in a run in the first and had an RBI single in the third. Julio Franco had a run-scoring ground-out in the fifth.

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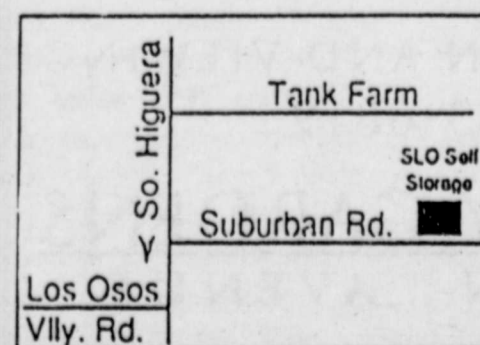
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# Granny charged for allegedly trying to rob gas station

Associated Press

WEST COVINA, Calif. — A 71-year-old grandmother was charged Tuesday with trying to rob a gasoline station at gunpoint, a crime that could lead to 13 years in prison if she's convicted.

Mary Ruth Blanco was expected to enter a plea later in the day to felony attempted second-degree robbery with the allegation she used a handgun in commission of a crime. She remained

in jail in lieu of \$60,000 bail.

Her husband said she apparently snapped because of financial problems.

"I want people to understand that Mary is a very good, sweet person and she is not a criminal," said Raymond Blanco, her 75-year-old husband. "I don't think she even knew what she was doing."

Blanco allegedly drove her pickup truck to a nearby Unocal station before dawn Saturday,

pointed a .32-caliber handgun at the clerk and demanded money. The clerk, safe behind bulletproof glass, called police and the woman fled.

The clerk copied the woman's license plate number and police arrested the woman Saturday evening.

The maximum sentence if convicted is 13 years in prison with the mandatory minimum set at four years, four months, said Deputy District Attorney Dave

Demerjian.

Ramond Blanco said the couple was in trouble with the Internal Revenue Service and a mortgage company.

The couple learned last week that the IRS was going to garnish half of retired postal worker Raymond Blanco's \$750 pension check for eight months for back taxes. A few days later, the mortgage company threatened to foreclose on their house.

Raymond Blanco said he and

his wife had consulted a tax preparer about their problems with the IRS and were awaiting word on what to do when the garnishment letter arrived.

"The stress of these bills, the letters, the payments, the sicknesses — they all combined to make her go over the top," Raymond Blanco said. "My wife is not the type of person to do this thing."

"It's just something that overtook her."

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SUMMER! JAMESON RANCH CAMP  
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WE NEED POSITIVE ROLE-MODELS  
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#### CLOSE TO POLY

1-2 M/F, rm in 2bdm-2.5bath apt.  
Avail after grad. no pets, clean  
\$850mo 3or4 incl trsh & water  
MUST SEE call Jon @ 783-1268

### Roommates

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Female roommate needed for fall  
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\$1250, Pick up INFO SHEET @  
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60 CASA ST TOWNHOUSES NOW  
TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR SEPT.  
Non-smoker, Quiet  
NO PETS 543-7555 \*Ask for Bea\*

### SUMMER SUBLET

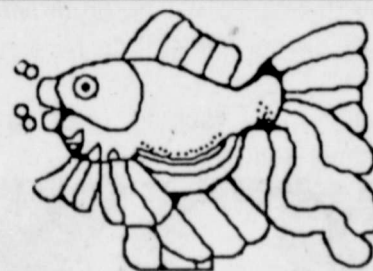
3-bdrm, 1-bth, \$950/mo 543-9272

Valencia Apartments now taking  
applications for September.  
private bedrooms to full apts.  
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543-1450

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FREE LIST OF ALL HOUSES & CONDOS  
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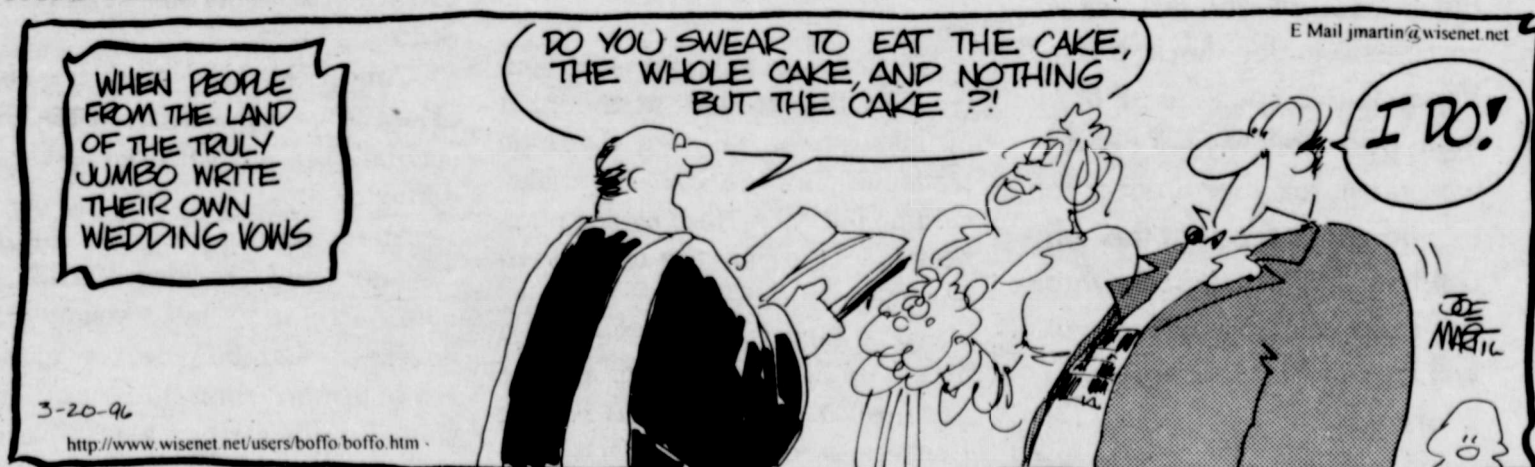
SLO CLEAN 2B/11/2B M.H. ON LG.  
CORNER LOT, INCLUDES ALL APPLS.  
PETS OK MOTIVATED SELLER \$35000  
SPC RENT \$280/MO. CALL 541-1132



## FUNNIES

### MISTER BOFFO

by Joe Martin



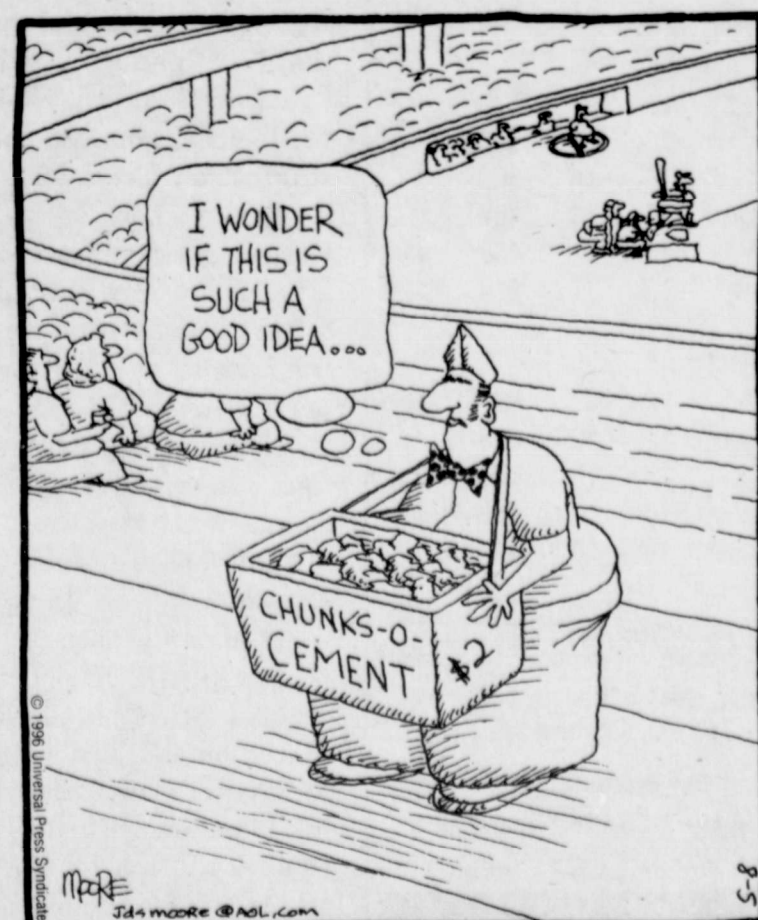
### CITIZEN DOG

BY MARK O'HARE



### IN THE BLEACHERS

By Steve Moore





# SPORTS

8 WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1996

MUSTANG DAILY

## SPORTS B I A R

A TAVERN OF SPORTS NEWS

### SCORES

#### BASEBALL

Cal Poly.....0  
Pepperdine.....0

#### WOMEN'S WATER POLO @ PACIFIC

##### COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS

Cal Poly.....9  
U.C. Berkeley.....4  
Cal Poly.....7  
University of Oregon.....4  
Cal Poly.....10  
Chahalem of Oregon.....4  
Cal Poly.....9  
University of Washington.....8  
Cal Poly.....8  
Simon Frazier.....3

### SCHEDULE

#### TODAY'S GAMES

• There are no games scheduled today.

#### TOMORROW'S GAMES

• There are no games tomorrow.

### NATIONAL HONORS

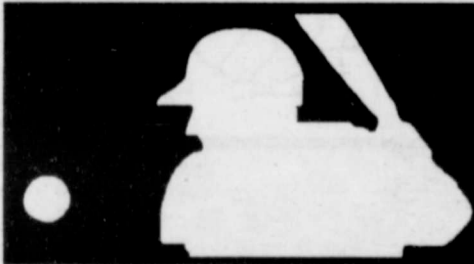
#### Phil Jackson named NBA Coach of the Year

Phil Jackson, philosopher, author, laid-back proponent of Zen meditation and former flower child, faced perhaps his greatest challenge as a coach this season.

His object: Take a team with the game's greatest player and its strangest player and mesh the personalities, characters, abilities and temperament into a championship run.

Jackson did that and more, leading the Chicago Bulls to the NBA's best-ever regular season with 72 victories. His reward Tuesday was being selected as the league's Coach of the Year. It's an honor that escaped Jackson during the Bulls run of three straight titles from 1991-93.

"He lets you be yourself," said forward Dennis Rodman.



#### Major League Baseball National League Standings

| East Division |    |    |      |       |  |
|---------------|----|----|------|-------|--|
|               | W  | L  | Pct. | GB    |  |
| Montreal      | 21 | 11 | .656 | ---   |  |
| Atlanta       | 19 | 13 | .594 | 2     |  |
| Philadelphia  | 16 | 14 | .533 | 4     |  |
| New York      | 13 | 17 | .433 | 7     |  |
| Florida       | 12 | 21 | .364 | 9 1/2 |  |

| Central Division |    |    |      |       |  |
|------------------|----|----|------|-------|--|
|                  | W  | L  | Pct. | GB    |  |
| Chicago          | 16 | 16 | .500 | ---   |  |
| Houston          | 16 | 16 | .500 | ---   |  |
| Pittsburgh       | 15 | 16 | .484 | 1/2   |  |
| St. Louis        | 14 | 17 | .452 | 1 1/2 |  |
| Cincinnati       | 12 | 17 | .414 | 2 1/2 |  |

| West Division |    |    |      |       |  |
|---------------|----|----|------|-------|--|
|               | W  | L  | Pct. | GB    |  |
| San Diego     | 19 | 12 | .613 | ---   |  |
| Colorado      | 15 | 15 | .500 | 3 1/2 |  |
| Los Angeles   | 16 | 17 | .485 | 4     |  |
| San Francisco | 14 | 16 | .467 | 4 1/2 |  |

• Standings as of 5/7

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

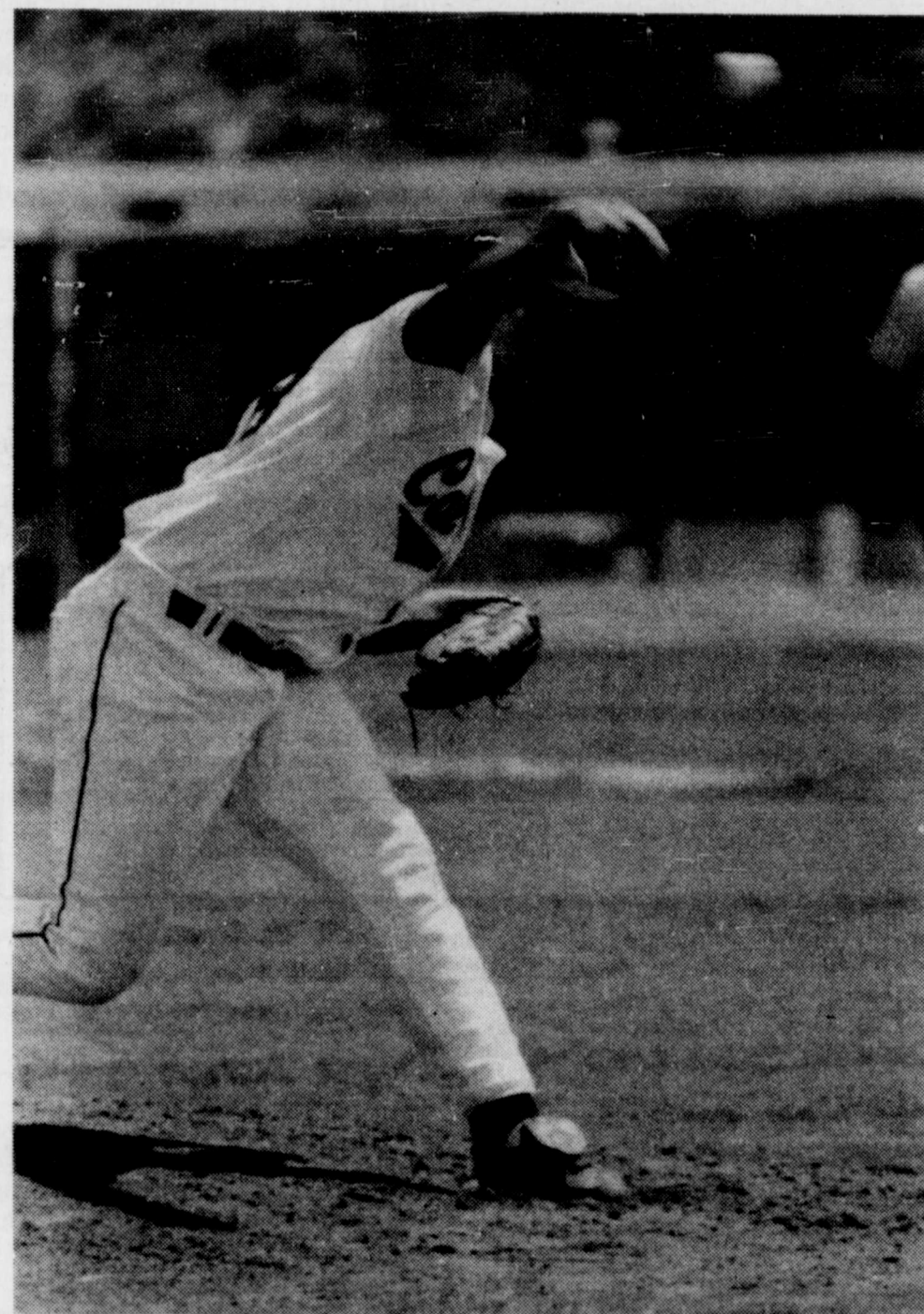
"I'm not doing this for any selfish reasons. This is not for me."

#### Abdur-Rahim

U.C. Berkeley basketball freshman on his reasons for turning pro

CAL POLY  
SPORTS HOTLINE  
(805) 756-SCOR

## Cal Poly's five-game winning streak ends



Cal Poly's pitching couldn't handle the Pepperdine Waves Tuesday afternoon as the Mustangs fell 4-3 and allowed 10 hits / Daily photo by Joe Johnston

Daily Staff Report

The Cal Poly baseball team didn't like Malibu, as the Mustangs lost to Pepperdine 4-3 Tuesday afternoon in a non-league game.

Pepperdine scored two runs in the third inning and added one run in both the fifth and sixth innings to put away the Mustangs.

Cal Poly mounted a comeback scoring one run in the eighth inning and two runs in the ninth inning. Designated hitter Marty Camacho hit a 410-foot solo-homerun, but Cal Poly could only muster one more run before shortstop Taber Maier flew out to left field to end the game.

The loss drops Cal Poly's record to 30-22 and halts the Mustang winning streak at five games.

Jason Novi pitched the entire game for Cal Poly in the loss, while Pepperdine used six pitchers to get the win.

Earlier this year in San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly used six-pitchers to defeat Pepperdine 6-3 on March 26.

The Mustangs close out their season against Stanford, the No. 9 team in the nation. The two teams were supposed to face-off next Monday in Palo Alto, but Cal Poly head coach Ritch Price would like to add one more game and move the series to this Saturday and Sunday.

## Abdur-Rahim now eligible for NBA draft

By Rob Gloster  
Associated Press

California forward Shareef Abdur-Rahim became the second freshman to declare his eligibility for the NBA draft Tuesday, tearfully declaring his family obligations outweigh personal desires.

The 6-foot-10 Abdur-Rahim, who led the Pac-10 with 21.1 points per game this season, said he struggled in recent days to make his decision and finally chose the NBA just hours before his announcement.

He joins Stephon Marbury of Georgia Tech as freshmen eligible for the June 26 draft. Two high school players and 13 other underclassmen also have made themselves available in the draft. Jess Settles, a junior from Iowa, also declared on Tuesday.

"I'm not doing this for any selfish reasons. This is not for me," Abdur-Rahim said, tears streaming down his cheeks. "If I was in this world by myself, I'd stay at the University of California. My mom has sacrificed for me all my life, and so has my father."

Cal coach Todd Bozeman, whose late arrival delayed the news conference for 50 minutes, dabbed his eyes with a tissue as Abdur-Rahim made his announcement. Several teammates watched from the back of the room.

Abdur-Rahim became the third key Cal player to defect in recent weeks. Sophomore guard Jelani Gardner has announced he will transfer to Pepperdine, and sophomore forward Tremaine Fowlkes was released from his Cal scholarship.

Fowlkes, the Pac-10 freshman of the year in 1994-95, is leaning toward transferring to Fresno State.

Center Michael Stewart also asked to be released from his Cal scholarship, but that request was denied.

Abdur-Rahim hit 52 percent of his shots and 38 percent of his 3-point attempts this season, and averaged 8.4 rebounds per game. He had more than 30 points four times while setting a Cal freshman scoring record.

But he was held to just nine points as the Bears lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament to Iowa State.

The native of Marietta, Ga., will need to build up his strength to play in the NBA — he weighs just 225, and has spindly legs.

"It was a difficult decision for me, but in the end I decided that leaving school was the best decision for me and my family at this time," Abdur-Rahim said. "I am leaving school at this time for my interest in helping my family's financial need."

## Butler has throat cancer, will miss rest of season

By Joe Kay  
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Los Angeles Dodgers center fielder Brett Butler has throat cancer and will miss the rest of the season.

Butler, 38, had a tonsillectomy in Atlanta, and a cancerous tumor the size of a plum was found, the club said Tuesday.

He will have surgery May 21 to remove lymph nodes and will require radiation therapy. The survival rate for his type of cancer is 70 percent, doctors said.

Dodgers general manager Fred Claire and manager Tommy Lasorda told the team about Butler's cancer before Tuesday night's game against the Cincinnati Reds. The Dodgers made an announcement after the clubhouse was closed.

"It's a shock, a total shock," Claire said in an interview. "Brett is such an important part of our organization. He's very much an inspiration as a player and as a person."

"I would say (the team meeting) was very quiet yet very emotional. Brett is not just a member of the team, he's been a leader of the team. It's an emotional thing we're all going through."

Butler, who has spent four full seasons with the Dodgers, was placed on the disabled list May 2 to have a tonsillectomy in Atlanta, his hometown. During surgery to remove the tonsils, doctors found the cancerous tumor.

A CAT scan Tuesday determined he had Squamous Cell

Carcinoma of the tonsils.

"My goal was always to play major league baseball," Butler said in a statement. "I've been fortunate to accomplish that goal for 16 years at the major-league level. Baseball is the foundation of my life and always will be."

Butler does not smoke or chew tobacco, according to the Dodgers' publicity department.

Dr. Bob Gadlege, who removed the tumor, will perform surgery

**"We have many friends in and out of baseball and this will come as a major shock. It is impossible to speak to all of them personally. My wife and I would ask for your prayers for us and our children at this difficult time. We're not sure where this road will lead us, but we will try our best to keep you informed."**

Brett Butler  
Dodger's center fielder

May 21 to remove a cancerous lymph node on the right side of Butler's neck and other nodes. He also will remove some muscle tissue where the tonsil was. Butler will have radiation treatments for six weeks.

Doctors told Butler his survival rate could be better than 70 percent because of his physical conditioning.

"We're very, very stunned with the news," Lasorda said. "We can only hope he can get over this

thing and live a healthy life."

Butler said his religious faith will be his strength.

"We have many friends in and out of baseball and this will come as a major shock," he said. "It is impossible to speak to all of them personally. My wife and I would ask for your prayers for us and our children at this difficult time. We're not sure where this road will lead us, but we will try our best to keep you informed."

The illness hit Butler at the start of one of his happiest seasons.

Butler was not offered a contract by the Dodgers at the start of last season. Butler, a union leader during the 1994-95 strike, said he felt "deserted" by the team he had played for the four previous years.

He signed with the New York Mets and hit .311 in 90 games. In need of a lead off hitter, the Dodgers traded for him on Aug. 18.

Butler's mother died of brain cancer last August, and he was booed when he returned to Los Angeles. A week after his return, he criticized the Dodgers for calling up replacement player Mike Busch, angering fans.

Through all of the chaos, Butler hit .300 or better for the fifth time in his career and stole 32 bases. He hit .345 after the All-Star break and had 19 bunt hits.

When he showed up for spring training this year, he said he was happy and excited about the Dodgers' chances of winning the NL West.